Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SUVA 01320 050129Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 CA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

-----107902 060249Z /64

R 310400Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY SUVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7693 INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CONFIDENTIA SUVA 1320

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CFED, PORS, SKOCI, CVIS (MEIR, JOHN H.) SPRS, TN

SUBJECT: EXTRADITION OF JOHN MEIER

- 1. AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER GORDON UPTON WHO FLEW TO TONGA FRIDAY, 28 JULY 1978, TO EXPLAIN THE MEIER INCIDENT TO THE KING WAS RELIEVED BY TURN OF EVENTS IN TONGA AND MEIER'S FALL FROM ROYAL GRACE AS WELLINGTON MUST HAVE REPORTED ALREADY. ACCORDING TO UPTON'S VERSION TO THE AMBASSADOR, THE KING SAID THAT MEIER WAS FINISHED IN TONGA. MEIER TOLD THE KING THAT HE WAS RETURNING TO NUKU'ALOFA (HE WAS NOT QUITE CLEAR WHEN)FOR A WEEK TO WIND UP HIS BUSINESS AND THEN LEAVE. HE DID NOT SAY WHERE HE MAY BE GOING.
- 2. UPTON ADDED THAT THE KING WAS QUITE PLEASED BY GOA'S SOLICITUDE IN THIS MATTER AS SHOWN BY THE FACT THAT UPTON WAS INSTRUCTED TO PERSONALLY VISIT THE KING TO EXPLAIN THE CASE.
- 3. FROM ANOTHER SOURCE WE HEARD THAT UPTON EXPLAINED MEIER'S ARREST TO THE KING AS THE RESULT OF INEXPEREICNE ON THE PART OF THE MAGISTRATE WHO ORDERED IT DESPITE MEIER'S POSSESSION OF VALID DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT FROM TONGA. CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: EXTRADITION OF JOHN MEIER

TAGS: PDIP, CFED, PORS, SOCI, CVIS, CPRS, TN, (MEIR, JOHN HERBERT)

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